



Southwest Collie and Sheltie Rescue

Serving Arizona, New Mexico and West Texas

Remembering Board Member Arlene Starkey

On June 22, 2021, Southwest Collie and Sheltie Rescue board member Arlene Starkey passed away at the age of 82 following a brief illness. Arlene was a member of New Mexico Collie Rescue, which morphed into Southwest Collie Rescue almost two decades ago. In 2019, Arizona Sheltie Rescue joined forces with Southwest Collie Rescue to form our current organization, Southwest Collie and Sheltie Rescue. Arlene was part of the leadership shepherding this transition and refocusing our efforts.

As the news about Arlene's passing spread many shared their grief. SWCSR board member and rescue coordinator, Kathleen Wallis, compiled the photos and statements about Arlene's work and produced a lovely memorial, which is available on the YouTube platform at <https://youtu.be/TIXPkQQRcql>. "Arlene and I were friends and worked closely together," said Kathy, "and we had many adventures until the last two or three years." continued page 2



Arlene at home with Kady and Tess—Joan Devine photo

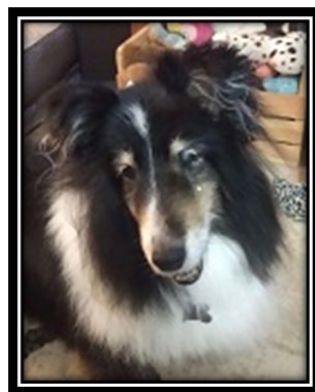
"Rescue has lost a champion advocate for collies and shelties. I greatly respected her contributions and dedication. Arlene's willingness to go above and beyond—not only for the dogs, but for their owners—was instrumental in the foundation of Southwest Collie Rescue and its stellar reputation." Peg Cass, SWCSR Board Member

COVID-19 Update As COVID-19 will be with us for the foreseeable future, we want to remind our supporters to please keep us in mind as a resource. If you are struggling to provide adequate care for your sheltie or collie, please reach out to us. We often have extra dog food or can arrange foster care if you are at risk for homelessness. We understand and would like to help you get through the rough patch if we can. Please contact the coordinator for your region or go to www.SWCSRRescue.com to contact us.

Tribute cont. After the video went live, tributes continued to come into SWCSR. Her friend Jan Ward said that "Arlene was a trailblazer. Little did I know when I started pet-sitting her treasured collies, Tess and Mandi, that Arlene was one of those women I had to thank for opening the doors for women working in the world of conservation. Many may not know that Arlene was the first woman to graduate with a bachelor's degree in conservation from Pennsylvania State University before coming to New Mexico. She worked for the Girl Scouts of America as a district advisor in Farmington, which included Navajo tribal lands. She left Farmington to continue her education at New Mexico State University, where she was the first woman to obtain a master's degree in wildlife science (1971)." Volunteer and foster parent, Barbara Hoffman, wrote "I will truly miss Arlene. I have known her for many years and loved her spunk and drive." Arlene's friend Joan Devine shared "I first came to know Arlene and her kind and generous heart in 2014, when she took in our sweet Kady. Arlene gave her a home and love when we could no longer keep her. My husband and I thought Kady was a Sheltie, but Arlene said Aussie!" Another friend, J. T., wrote a note on the YouTube memorial page: "Thank you for the lovely tribute for Arlene. By connecting collies in need with loving homes for decades, Arlene helped to improve countless human and collie lives—that's quite a legacy of care and love. She is deeply missed." Arlene's organizational skills included scheduling home visits with potential adopters, matching adopters and dogs, coordinating transportation for dogs across multiple states to scores of foster families and forever homes, not to mention managing the nonprofit's website. A woman of many talents, we will long remember Arlene Starkey for her years of service and for enriching the lives of those she touched. *Brenda J. Proffitt*



Ranger - A sweet goodbye We at SWCSR were saddened to hear of the loss of Ranger (above). Many of you may remember the blind collie named "Colt" who was adopted and renamed "Ranger." Our condolences to Laura and Steve who took in a dog deemed unadoptable and gave him a home in his final years. "Without the work of the SWCSR and fosters like Amy, we never would have had our golden time with Ranger, and our lives would have been poorer. We miss our boy." Steve W



Caring for our Elders Recently, two older dogs were brought into the rescue. Our condolences to Laura and Mike who opened their hearts and home to care for Susie, 16, in her final days. Corey, also 16, was returned to the rescue when he needed a home. A special thank you to our fosters and volunteers who give comfort to our elders in need of homes. And a reminder to our community that collies and shelties in need find homes or long-term foster care as needed.

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An update on Maggie

Maggie (above), required a Femoral Head Osteotomy, which was performed in Phoenix on August 3, along with her spay procedure. SWCSR facilitated her medical care, surgery, and transition to her foster family. Joe & Shirley, in Tucson have taken on her rehabilitation and have enlisted the help of Kate Titus and "A Loyal Companion-Canine Mobility and Swim Center" for therapy. Current therapy includes weekly sessions, alternating mobility on the ground, and swimming in a pool. A video of Maggie's swim session can be found on our Facebook page.

Congratulations, Gigi!

As our dogs are primarily in the southwest, there is a chance of coming across venomous snakes with dangerous consequences. SWCSR pup Gigi (below), completed training in Tucson through Jill Cruz, Dog Training, LLC, and Animal Experts. The training event was sponsored by Passion 4 Paws - Southern Arizona and also served as a fundraiser. Owner David writes, "We decided to get this training for Gigi as she is so gregarious and curious. As for our other collies - Austin and Diego - we've found that they avoid snakes already (especially Diego!). We are keeping an eye on Gigi to see how she applies her new snake avoidance skills!"



Congratulations Riley!

Congratulations to Riley (above) on his new home! Owner Teresa writes "It's been a week- and everything is going well - he's had his first hike on a trail and he did wonderful, he's been out on the mountain with me and played in creeks, ran thru marshes and jumped like Tigger through fields- and loved it - he's met new dog friends and maybe has a Great Dane girlfriend - and he's mastered walking on a leash. He is constantly at my side and is simply the most perfect companion I could have wished for."

We look forward to hearing about your adventures as you form your new pack!





Fosters Needed Right now, we have two collie mixes in boarding that we would like to get into foster homes. The picture we have is from the shelter. We can provide what we know and support services to the fosters. Please forward your interest to bkferrell@cox.net.

Rummage Sale The annual SWCSR rummage sale is scheduled for three days, beginning November 18 and running through the 20th. If you would like to volunteer or donate, please contact Cindy at (602) 570-2951.

AmazonSmile Amazon shoppers can select us as their designated charity for a portion of their Amazon purchases. No extra charge to you, but the rescue receives 0.5% of qualifying purchases. We received \$149.41 from the AmazonSmile Foundation from purchases made between April 1 and July 30, 2021. To participate, login to your Amazon account and follow the instructions at the top of the page. Contributions appear on your smile.amazon.com page. These donations contribute to our success in rehoming and treating dogs that might otherwise not make it out of shelters. We all know the burden of vet bills, especially in times of uncertainty, but this charity program allows you to contribute while you shop for your everyday items.

How can you support SWCSR? Often we have people who want to help but think that they can't because they can't foster. While fostering is very important, it is not our sole need. We often need to transport rescues for fostering or adoptions and several people have donated time and gas to the cause. Also, we learn about a large number of our rescue dogs from supporters who inform us of notices about shelties/collies needing help. Examples include posts on NextDoor, Craigslist, or conversations with acquaintances. We will contact the posters and offer assistance. Of course cash is welcome, but non-cash donations are welcome as well. A generous supporter has funded a storage unit for us which holds items for our rummage sale. We each have skills, such as website admin, writing articles, or fundraising. Our only limitation is our imagination! If you would like to help, let us know by contacting your regional coordinator and ask how you can support our efforts. We can provide tax donation letters if requested. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

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